Serial No. 10/646,192

PATENT
Docket No. 54317-030700

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

**Claims 1 - 3 (cancelled)**

**Claim 4 (original):** A method of broadcasting a movie to a set-top box, the method comprising:

a content provider broadcasting movie data to a set-top box, the content of the movie data being selected by the content provider;

permitting automatic storage of the movie data broadcast from the content provider onto the set-top box;

permitting assembling the movie data in the set top box to form at least one full movie and associated metadata;

permitting analysis of the metadata to determine when to make the movie available for viewing; and

permitting viewing of the movie in response to a user's selection of the movie.

**Claim 5 (original):** The method of claim 4 wherein permitting viewing occurs upon agreement to charge the user a fee for viewing the selected movie.

**Claim 6 (original):** The method of claim 4 wherein associated metadata comprises information such as time stamps which determine begin and end dates for permitted movie viewing.

**Claim 7 (original):** The method of claim 4 wherein the movie selected by the user is available for viewing for a limited period of time.

**Claim 8 (original):** The method of claim 4 wherein the movie selected is available for viewing for a limited number of times.

**Claim 9 (original):** The method of claim 4 comprising the step of repeatedly re-broadcasting movie data thereby to ensure that the entire movie is received by the set-top box.

**Claim 10 (original):** A method of broadcasting movies to a set-top box, the method comprising:

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a content provider broadcasting movie data to a set-top box, the content of the movie data being selected by the content provider and not by the user;

permitting automatic storage on the set-top box of the movie data broadcast from the content provider;

permitting assembly of the movie data to form a plurality of full movies;

making selected movies available for viewing by the user at a time pre-determined by the content provider, the selected movie having previously been stored on the set top box; and

effecting removal of the movie data representing one or more movies stored on the set top box at a time determined by the content provider.

**Claim 11 (original):** The method of claim 10 wherein the movie data is transmitted and stored to the set top box at a time being at least one day, and preferably about a week, before making the movie available for viewing.

**Claim 12 (original):** The method of claim 10 wherein the movie data comprises audio and video to form a movie and associated metadata, wherein the metadata indicates the time predetermined by the content provider to make the movie available for viewing by the user.

**Claim 13 (currently amended):** The method of claim 12 wherein the movie is a new release and the time predetermined by the content provider to permit viewing by a ~~use~~ user is an official release date for the new release.

**Claim 14 (original):** The method of claim 10 wherein movie data is broadcast to the set-top box using standard file transfer protocols.

**Claim 15 (original):** The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of repeatedly re-broadcasting movie data thereby to ensure that the entire movie is received by the set-top box.

**Claim 16 (original):** The method of claim 10 wherein a movie is made available for viewing by the user upon payment of a fee.

**Claim 17 (cancelled)**

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**Claim 18 (currently amended):** A method of broadcasting movies to a set-top box for storage and subsequent viewing, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

 selectively broadcasting data wirelessly from a content provider to a set-top box;

 remotely controlling when to make data available for viewing by the user; and

 remotely controlling when to remove data from the set-top box.

**Claim 19 (original):** The method of claim 18 including permitting the user to select when to view selected data during an available access time, the user selectively viewing the data on one or more television sets, and the set top box being a unit separate from the one or more television set.

**Claim 20 (currently amended):** The method of claim 18 wherein payment for ~~a permitted~~ viewing of the data is made by the user through a separate telephone line.

**Claim 21 (original):** The method of claim 18 wherein selectively broadcasting data permits the content provider to determine the data to be broadcast wirelessly to the set-top box.

**Claim 22 (original):** The method of claim 18 wherein data is broadcast by encoding data onto standard broadcast television signals.

**Claim 23 (currently amended):** A method of content management for a remote hardware device, the method comprising the steps of:

 collecting content to be transmitted to a remote hardware device;

 generating metadata specifying various properties of the content;

 associating the metadata with the content;

 transmitting the content and its associated metadata to the remote <u>hardware</u> device;

 permitting automatic storage of the data received at the remote <u>hardware</u> device;

 providing software for operating on the remote hardware device to process the metadata and manage the content according to its associated metadata.

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**Claim 24 (original):** The method of claim 23 wherein the metadata comprises information indicating when to make content available to the viewer and when to remove content from the hardware device.

**Claim 25 (currently amended):** The method of ~~claims~~ claim 18 ~~herein~~ further comprising ~~the step of~~ repeatedly re-broadcasting movie data thereby to ensure that the entire movie is received by the set-top box.

**Claim 26 (original):** A method of providing movies available for purchase or rental directly to remote viewers through broadcast communication, the method comprising:

providing a viewer with a set top box, the set top box having a hard drive for storing a plurality of movies;

broadcasting movie data to the set top box and allowing movie data to accumulate on the hard drive; and

providing software resident on the set top box, the software being programmed to:

automatically store the movie data broadcast to the set top box;

assemble the movie data into a plurality of viewable movies and associated metadata;

analyze the metadata to determine when a movie should be made available; and

allow the user to select the available movie when available.

**Claim 27 (currently amended):** A method as claimed in claim 26 wherein the movies are available ~~fro~~ for a predetermined limited time and thereafter are essentially removed by the broadcaster.

**Claim 28 (original):** A method as claimed in claim 26 wherein the movies are encrypted thereby to limit the availability in at least one of the following respects, being copied multiple times, being viewed more than once, or being viewed or copied other than when predetermined criteria are met.

**Claim 29 (original):** A method as claimed in claim 26 wherein the movie is broadcast by encoding data representative of the movie onto standard broadcast television signals.

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**Claim 30 (original):** A method of creating a digital home movie library, the method comprising the steps of:

have a content provider broadcast movie data to a plurality of set-top boxes, the content of the movie data being selected by the content provider and being uncontrolled by the user;

automatically storing on the set-top box the movie data broadcast from the content provider;

assembling the movie data to form a plurality of full movies; and

making one or more of the movies available to the user at a time predetermined by the content provider.

**Claim 31 (currently amended):** A method as claimed in claim 30 wherein the movies are available fro for a predetermined limited time and thereafter are essentially removed by the broadcaster.

**Claim 32 (original):** A method as claimed in claim 30 wherein the movies are encrypted thereby to limit the availability in at least one of the following respects, being copied multiple times, being viewed more than once, or being viewed or copied other than when predetermined criteria are met.

**Claim 33 (original):** A method as claimed in claim 30 wherein the movie is broadcast by encoding data representative of the movie onto standard broadcast television signals.

**Claim 34 (original):** The method of claim 26 wherein payment for the data is made through a separate telephone line.

**Claim 35 (original):** The method of claim 30 wherein selectively broadcasting comprises the content provider determining what data is broadcast wirelessly to the set-top box.

**Claim 36 (cancelled)**

**Claim 37 (original):** A method of distributing movies directly to viewers at home comprising:

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providing a viewer with a set top box, the set top box having a hard drive for storing a plurality of movies and software for permitting access to the movies;

broadcasting at least one movie and associated data to the set top box wirelessly prior to an official release date for the movie, the associated data regulating the release date of the movie on the set top box; and

automatically storing the movies and its associated data to the set top box hard drive;

analyzing the associated data to determine when the movies should be made available for viewing; and

permitting viewing of the movie on its release date.

**Claims 38 – 40 (cancelled)**

**Claim 41 (currently amended):** A digital home movie library system for providing access to movies comprises:

an antenna and tuner for receiving broadcast signals;

a hard disk drive for storing movie data and metadata transmitted by the broadcast signals and received through the antenna; and

a processor for executing software, processing data received through the antenna and tuner, and for processing user input commands to permit access to the stored movie data under predetermined control conditions derived from the metadata.

**Claim 42 (original):** A digital home movie library as claimed in claim 41 including a modem to permit electronic billing of the user for access of the library.

**Claim 43 (original):** A system for providing access to movies comprising:

an antenna and receiver for receiving broadcast signals;

a processor for executing software, processing data received through the antenna and tuner, and for processing user input commands to permit access to the stored movie data under predetermined control conditions;

a hard disk drive for storing movie data transmitted by the broadcast signals and received through the antenna; and

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a smart card secured to a circuit board of the receiver, the smart card facilitating a dedicated use of the receiver with a designated user.

**Claim 44 (original):** A system as claimed in claim 43 including a modem to permit electronic billing of the user for access to the movies in the hard drive storage.

**Claim 45 (original):** A system of claim 43 wherein the receiver and antenna form part of a set top box for operation with a monitor.

**Claim 46 (original):** A system of claim 43 wherein the receiver and antenna form part of a set top box, and including an integral fastening of an active component of a smart card to a circuit board of the set top box thereby to impede removal, and enhance the security of the set top box.

**Claim 47 (original):** The system of claim 43 including a secondary external smart card slot for use with another smart card in case the system becomes compromised.

**Claim 48 (original):** The system of claim 46 wherein the smart card is fastened to a main board of the set top box with epoxy.

**Claims 49 - 51 (canceled)**

**Claim 52 (original):** A method of a remote user receiving a movie broadcast to a set-top box, the method comprising:

receiving movie data broadcast by a content provider to a set-top box of a user, the content of the movie data being selected by the content provider;

storing of the movie data broadcast from the content provider onto the set-top box;

assembling the movie data in the set top box to form at least one full movie and associated metadata;

analyzing of the metadata to determine when to make the movie available for viewing; and

viewing of the movie in response to the remote user's selection of the movie.

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**Claim 53 (currently amended):** The method of claim 5̶1̶ 52 wherein viewing occurs upon agreement to charge the user a fee for viewing the selected movie.

**Claim 54 (currently amended)** The method of claim 4̶8̶ 52 wherein the movie selected by the user is available for viewing for a limited period of time.

**Claim 55 (currently amended):** The method of claim 5̶1̶ 52 wherein the movie selected is available for viewing for a limited number of times.

**Claim 56 (currently amended):** A method of a remote user receiving a broadcast m̶o̶v̶i̶e̶s̶ movie to a set-top box, the method comprising:

receiving from a content provider movie data broadcast to a set-top box, the content of the movie data being selected by the content provider and not by the remote user;

automatically storing on the set-top box the movie data broadcast from the content provider;

assembling of the movie data to form a plurality of full movies;

selecting movies for viewing by the user at a time pre-determined by the content provider, the selected movie having previously been stored on the set top box; and

p̶e̶r̶m̶i̶t̶t̶i̶n̶g̶ ̶r̶e̶m̶o̶v̶a̶l̶ ̶o̶f̶ removing the movie data representing one or more movies stored on the set top box at a time determined by the content provider.

**Claim 57 (currently amended):** The method of claim 5̶5̶ 56 further comprising the step of repeatedly receiving rebroadcast movie data thereby to ensure that the entire movie is stored by the set-top box.

**Claim 58 (currently amended):** The method of claim 5̶5̶ 56 wherein a movie is made available for viewing by the user upon payment of a fee.

**Claim 59 (original):** A method of receiving a broadcast a movie on a set-top box of a remote user, the method comprising:

receiving a broadcast movie from a content provider broadcasting movie data to a set-top box, the content of the movie data being selected by the content provider; and

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storing for a predetermined time on the set top box the movie data broadcast from the content provider onto the set-top box, the predetermined time being established by the content provider.

**Claim 60 (withdrawn):** A method of permitting a remote user to view a showcasing of the contents of a digital movie library, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a user interface comprising a scrolling marquee and a window, whereby the scrolling marquee features a plurality of images, each image representing a movie, and the window contains a video loop, comprising trailers for movies; and

permitting the user to view the interface.

**Claim 61 (original):** A method of claim 59 wherein the remote user receives and processes a broadcast of a movie to a set-top box, the method comprising:

receiving through an antenna a content provider broadcasting via wireless telecommunication over a television frequency spectrum of at least one movie, the movie being selected by the content provider and not by the remote user; and

storing of the movie broadcast from the content provider in a set-top box without interaction by the user.

**Claim 62 (withdrawn):** The method of claim 60 wherein viewing occurs upon agreement to charge the user a fee for viewing the selected movie.

**Claim 63 (original):** The method of claim 61 wherein the movie selected by the user is available for viewing for a limited period of time.

**Claim 64 (withdrawn):** A method of broadcasting designated audio content to a hardware device, the method comprising:

a content provider broadcasting via wireless telecommunication over a designated frequency spectrum at least one audio to a hardware device, the designated audio content being selected by the content provider and not by the user; and

permitting storage of the designated audio content broadcast from the content provider in the hardware device without interaction by the user.

**Claim 65 (withdrawn):** The method of claim 63 further comprising the step of indicating that the designated audio content is available once the entire designated audio content has been received on the hardware device; and

permitting access to said designated audio content by a user.

**Claim 66 (withdrawn):** The method of claim 63 further comprising the step of re-broadcasting designated audio content data previously broadcast to ensure that the entire designated audio content is received by the hardware device.

**Claim 67 (withdrawn):** A method of broadcasting a designated audio content to a set-top box, the method comprising:

a content provider broadcasting designated audio content data to a hardware device, the content of the designated audio content data being selected by the content provider;

permitting automatic storage of the designated audio content data broadcast from the content provider onto the hardware device;

permitting assembling the designated audio content data in the hardware device to form at least one full designated audio content and associated metadata;

permitting analysis of the metadata to determine when to make the designated audio content available; and

permitting access to the designated audio content in response to a user's selection of the designated audio content.

**Claim 68 (withdrawn):** The method of claim 66 wherein permitting access occurs upon agreement to charge the user a fee for viewing the selected designated audio content.

**Claims 69 - 71 (cancelled)**

**Claim 72 (original):** A method of broadcasting a video to a set-top box, the method comprising:

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a content provider broadcasting video data to a set-top box, the content of the video data being selected by the content provider;

permitting automatic storage of the video data broadcast from the content provider onto the set-top box;

permitting assembling the video data in the set top box to form at least one full video and associated metadata;

permitting analysis of the metadata to determine when to make the video available for viewing; and

permitting viewing of the video in response to a user's selection of the video.

**Claim 73 (currently amended):** The method of claim 71 72 wherein permitting viewing occurs upon agreement to charge the user a fee for viewing the selected video.

**Claim 74 (currently amended):** The method of claim 71 72 wherein the video selected by the user is available for viewing for a limited period of time.

**Claim 75 (currently amended):** The method of claim 71 72 comprising the step of repeatedly re-broadcasting video data thereby to ensure that the entire video is received by the set-top box.

**Claim 76 (original):** A system as claimed in claim 41 wherein the set-top box includes a modem, and wherein the set-top includes software to periodical permit contact with the content provider through the modem.

**Claim 77 (currently amended):** A system as claimed in claim 75 76 information passed between the content provider and the set-top via the modem includes at least one of a user's viewing/rental history, access information used for billing purposes, set-top performance logs to monitor the performance of the system or keys used to decrypt videos.

**Claim 78 (currently amended):** A system as claimed in claim 75 76 wherein the processor simultaneously plays a video and reacts to signals from a remote control, and modem activity.

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**Claim 79 (currently amended):** A system as claimed in claim ~~75~~ 76 wherein the hard drive is physically mated with the set-top box structure for security purposes thereby rendering it useless for its intended storage purpose if removed for intended use apart from the set top box.

**Claim 80 (original):** A method of broadcasting movies to a set-top box for storage and subsequent viewing as claimed in claim 18 wherein videos stored on the set top box are encrypted, and upon selection of a video to view and satisfaction of business rules, the set top box permits the video to be decrypted and played.

**Claim 81 (original):** A method of broadcasting movies to a set-top box for storage and subsequent viewing as claimed in claim 18 wherein the set-top box is not necessarily connected to the content provider after the video is stored, and prior to allowing a video to be viewed, the video being capable of independent decryption by electronic keys on the set-top box along with the current account status.

**Claim 82 (currently amended):** A method of broadcasting movies to a set-top box for storage and subsequent viewing as claimed in claim 18 including logging a decryption of a movie and using the ~~this~~ log to determine a user's bill.

**Claim 83 (new):** A method of remotely deleting content on a set top box, comprising:

transmitting metadata from a content provider to a set top box, the metadata being associated with content previously stored on the set top box, the metadata being utilized by the set top box to delete the content.

**Claim 84 (new):** The method of claim 83 wherein the metadata comprises a date on which the set top box is authorized to initiate deletion of the content.

**Claim 85 (new):** The method of claim 83 wherein the content previously stored on the set top box is transmitted remotely from the content provider.

**Claim 86 (new):** The method of claim 83 wherein the content previously stored on the set top box is loaded without being transmitted remotely from the content provider.

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**Claim 87 (new):** The method of claim 83 wherein deletion of content is independent from making room for new content as a result of available disk space.

**Claim 88 (new):** A method of remotely deleting content from a set top box, comprising:

composing an instruction to delete specific content previously stored on a set top box; and

transmitting metadata including the instruction to delete specific content to the set top box, the set top box having logic therein that interprets the instruction and deletes the previously stored content referenced in the instruction.

**Claim 89 (new):** The method of claim 88 wherein the content previously stored on the set top box is transmitted remotely from the content provider.

**Claim 90 (new):** The method of claim 88 wherein the content previously stored on the set top box is loaded without being transmitted remotely from the content provider.

**Claim 91 (new):** A method of remotely managing content on a set top box, comprising:

transmitting metadata to a set top box, the metadata being associated with content previously stored on the set top box, the metadata being utilized by the set top box to make the content unavailable to a user.

**Claim 92 (new):** The method of claim 91 wherein the metadata comprises a date on which the set top box is authorized to initiate making the content unavailable.

**Claim 93 (new):** The method of claim 91 wherein the content previously stored on the set top box is transmitted remotely from a content provider.

**Claim 94 (new):** The method of claim 91 wherein the content previously stored on the set top box is loaded without being transmitted remotely from a content provider.

**Claim 95 (new):** A method of displaying available movies stored on a set top box, comprising:

receiving a plurality of movies from a content provider;

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receiving a plurality of sets of metadata, each of the sets of metadata being associated with one of the plurality of movies; and

analyzing each of the sets of metadata to determine if the set of metadata meets pre-determined criteria established by the content provider for displaying the movie associated with the set of metadata in a listing of available movies for viewing in a user interface associated with the set top box.

**Claim 96 (new):** The method of claim 95 wherein the pre-determined criteria is a date on which the set top box is authorized to display the movie.

**Claim 97 (new):** The method of claim 95 wherein the pre-determined criteria is a time at which the set top box is authorized to display the movie.

**Claim 98 (new):** A method of displaying available movies stored on a set top box, comprising:

establishing pre-determined criteria that determine whether content should be displayed;

composing metadata that includes the pre-determined criteria;

transmitting content associated with the metadata to the set top box; and

transmitting the metadata to the set top box so that the metadata is analyzed to determine if the pre-determined criteria is met, the content being made available for viewing if the pre-determined criteria is met.

**Claim 99 (new):** The method of claim 98 wherein the pre-determined criteria is a date on which the set top box is authorized to display the movie.

**Claim 100 (new):** The method of claim 98 wherein the pre-determined criteria is a time at which the set top box is authorized to display the movie.